

## Hugh Hammond Bennett and the Creation of the Soil Conservation Service, September 19, 1933 – April 27, 1935

D gla Hel  
Na i al Hi ia  
  
Na al Re ce C e ai Se ice, USDA  
Wa hi g , D.C.

### SUMMARY

This article is a continuation of the historical development of the Soil Conservation Service, *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, V.I. 6, N. 2 (March, 2009): 68A-74A, and the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, NRCS Historical Highlights Number 8, September 2008.

The article discusses the establishment of the Soil Conservation Service on September 19, 1933, and its evolution through April 27, 1935, during the Great Depression. Hugh Hammond Bennett, the first Director, established the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) to combat soil erosion and improve agricultural productivity. The SCS was created by Executive Order 7001, which merged the Soil Conservation Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture with the Soil Erosion Control Division of the U.S. Department of the Interior. The new agency was responsible for developing and implementing soil conservation programs across the country.

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D gla Hel i he Na i al Hi ia f he  
Na al Re ce C e ai Se ice. He  
ha k Pa icia J. La e ce, Pa l F. Reich, a d  
Sa el R. S alc f hei a i a ce.

he il c e ai k a  
e a e ba i . The e di ge i-  
ai f SES e e ge c e l -  
e f di gi J e 1935 ga e a  
ai f ge c legi la i f a  
e a e age c . Fi all , d gh  
i he G ea Plai a d d cl d  
ee i g ea a d he fede al  
ci d a a icall de a ed he  
eed f il c e ai .

### ARRIVAL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

H gh Ha d Be e a i -  
e a di ec f he S il E i  
Se ice (SES) beca e effec i e  
Se e be 19, 1933, a d he ed  
De a e f he I e i ffice  
i he Wi de B ildi g, 600 17<sup>h</sup>  
S ee , N.W. I aki g hi lea e  
f he De a e f Ag ic l e,  
Be e e ha k A i a  
Sec ea f Ag ic l e Ref d  
T g ell f all he i ee  
ha e ake i behalf i c ec-  
i ih he e i g a .  
Be e al e ed a e -  
bli g he S il E i Se ice aff.  
He had i e Wale L de -  
ilk i i i g hi j i he e  
e ice. T g ell e L de ilk i  
Calif ia a d had ec e ded  
hi Be e .<sup>1</sup> J a he had

d e i h Sec e a Wallace,  
Be e a ked T g ell f he a i -  
a ce f e e i e e i e  
a i di ec a de a -  
i jec . Thi fi e e a  
f he a i a ce f D . H. V. Geib  
f he Blackla d S a i , Te a ; G.  
W. M g a e, Mi i Valle S a -  
i , I a; W. A. R kie, Pacific  
N h e S a i , Wa hi g ; R.  
E. Uhla d, Mi i S a i ; a d R.  
H. Da i f U e Mi i i i Valle  
S a i , Wi c i .

Be e al ied c i ce T g -  
ell c ec a i a i ha had  
e ed hi i ce he c e a i f he  
e i e e i e a i -  
a el j i e i i fa -  
be f a i . He b il hi ca e b  
ec i g he ece hi f he  
il c e a i e e .  
Be e had bee he d i i g f ce  
behid ec i g he B cha a  
A ed e i 1929 f d il  
e i e e i e a i . H -  
e e , he Chief f he B ea f  
Che i a d S il i cl ded he  
F e Se ice a d B ea f Ag i -  
c l al E gi ee i g a e a f  
e a i . The F e Se ice  
e a ed a i al e, hile he  
B ea f Che i a d S il  
(BCS) a d he B ea f Ag ic l -  
al E gi ee i g (BAE) j i l -  
e i ed e a i . A Be e  
e T g ell, f ha  
e a e e d a f g ief  
ha igi a ed.

Be e h gh ha he F e  
Se ice had achie ed e l , all f  
hich e ha e a ecia ed a ch  
a he . The e gi ee , ag -

i , a d il cie i had al  
b ai ed ba ic i f a i ha e  
h ld ha e had 75 ea ag ...  
Ye Be e fi l belie ed ch  
e c ld ha e bee achie ed e -  
ce f he e i be ee he  
BCS ag i a d BAE ag ic l -  
al e gi ee . The la e had ke  
a al i g a ack f  
c i ici f hi ha ag ic  
e e i e i alled a di ec -  
i . A he e e e he aid  
e f hi e held ha  
e i ca be c lled b e -  
ace a d l b e ace .<sup>2</sup>

A N h Ca li ia , Be e k e  
e ace had bee ed i he S h  
f a ce a d ha he Ma g  
e ace, de el ed b a N h Ca -  
li a fa e , had bee i e f a  
half-ce . He c ceded he  
be efi f e aci g ge le  
l e he e he il e e  
e dible. Be e laced he e -  
ha i , h e e , ege a i a d  
il il h. He i ed T g ell, il  
e i c l i clia ed la d i  
e e i all a ag ic ble .  
He ged T g ell lace e i -  
i fall f he e i e e i e  
ai e cl i el de he B -  
ea f Che i a d S il .<sup>3</sup>

A di ec f SES, Be e bega  
i le e i g he la ha he had  
ea lie e e ed Sec e a f I -  
e i Ha ld Icke Se e be  
16, 1933. He h gh he ef -  
feci e e l c ld be achie ed if  
he de a i jec ked  
i la ge a ea , efe abl c le e  
a e hed f 25,000 300,000  
ac e . The jec h ld be

alig ed i h a e hed b da ie  
a h he c la i e effec  
f il c e ai , i cl di g fl d  
e e i . Be e i e i all  
ed he e fl d e e i  
di i g i h hi e l f c-  
al fl d c l. F he e,  
he belie ed ha , The babili i  
ha he e effec a e g i g be  
ch g ea e ha a e ha  
ed.<sup>4</sup>The e jec Id be  
I ca ed i a i a el 20 egi al  
il e i a ea ha Be e had  
ide ified. The e e e al ead 12  
il e i e e i e a i i  
he e egi , a d he ed  
add he ac i , de a i ,  
ha e f he la .

The fi jec Id be ea he  
e e i e a i he e he di-  
ec f he a i c Id i le-  
e he le lea ed f he  
e e i e . The a i di ec  
Id ha e I ca e a ea b a-  
e hed he e a ig ifica be  
ffa e h ed a i cli a i  
ig a ag ee e a d k i h  
he e Se ice. A aff c i i g  
f ec bi a i f ag i ,  
il cie i , e gi ee , ec i ,  
a d bi l gi Id be a e bled  
i le e he jec ; a d de e d-  
i g he l ca i a f e e  
a ge eciali Id be i cl ded.  
M f he a e hed ba ed -  
jec k he a e f he a e  
b d a d e e be ed e e -  
iall . Ra d H. Da i e i -  
e de f he U e Mi i i i  
Valle ai a La C e, Wi c -  
i , a he fi e e i e a i  
di ec ec e he c e a i f  
fa e i a ea b a e hed.

Th , ea b C C eek a de -  
ig a ed jec be 1 i N -  
e be a d b Ja a 1934, -  
jec be 10, he Na aj P jec ,  
a e abli hed. The igi al  
\$5,000,000 had bee all ca ed a  
hi i .

Ab h afe a i i g i  
he De a e f he I e i ,  
Be e be eched Icke f f d  
e abli h a he 12 13 -  
jec i addi i al he 12 jec  
hich he i i al \$5,000,000 had  
bee all ca ed. Fi e i f he  
jec Id be de ed e-  
ea ch, he he bei g he  
de a i al del . T b l e  
hi a g e , Be e Id Icke  
ha D . T g ell f he De a e  
f Ag ic l e a d he ha e g-  
ge ed ha he S il E i Se ice  
l k i he babili f b ai i g  
addi i al f d f e i -c l  
jec .<sup>5</sup> U e i abl ,  
Be e al a ed e a d he  
g a . A e i e i e-  
ai ed a he he he e e  
fficie eciali i h he i e -  
e a d e e i e ce i il c e a-  
i aff he jec . Af e e  
i i e , Be e belie ed he c Id  
e li alified aff. M f he  
ed jec Id be ide  
he ag ic l al egi c e ed b  
he il e i e e i e a i .  
The c e ai e h d Id  
ha e be de e i ed a k  
c e ced. The ec d  
\$5,000,000 beca e a ailable i  
Ma ch 1934. SES e abli hed a -  
he 14 jec b la e A il 1934,  
a hich i e he ec d  
\$5,000,000 had bee all ca ed.<sup>6</sup>



Chief Hugh H. Bennett, Mrs. Bennett, and regional conservator A.E. McClymonds view conservation work on the Frank Milsna farm, Manske Ridge on the Coon Creek Demonstration Project in Vernon County, Wisconsin, October 25, 1946 (Wis-1178, NRCS, Madison, Wisconsin)

Si ce he i i al f di g f he Se -  
ice, he e ha i i Ne Deal  
e e ge c k g a had  
hif ed. Be e b i ed hi e -  
e Icke i id-N e be ,  
a d he Ci il W k Ad i i ai  
(CWA) had bee e abli hed N -  
e be 9. The CWA eflec ed P e i -  
de R e el (FDR) efe e ce  
f k elief e di ec e -  
l e elief. A e l e  
h ea e ed i e i he i e f  
1933-1934, Ha H ki e -  
e ed FDR i h a la a f  
CWA f he P blic W k Ad -  
i i ai f d . The i i f  
he CWA a ide e l -  
e a d ide i ickl .  
Icke gge ed ha Be e c -  
ac H ki ab f di g he ad -  
di i al SES jec , a d Be e

did .<sup>7</sup> Wa i g ide i edi -  
a e e l e f he i e ,  
CWA e abli hed ic c i e ia. P -  
jec be ead he -  
e l ed k i 15 da a d  
he jec had be fi i hed b  
Feb a 15. Ne SES de a -  
i jec c ld ee hi -  
ched le.<sup>8</sup>

Be e e lai ed he i ai  
Icke a d i ed he ge  
eed a de a ed b he a  
e e a i i g dail b le e ,  
eleg a h, l g di a ce ele h e  
a d delega i , f addi i al -  
jec . He ec ed he de ci  
e i had gh a d ade hi  
lea. We i l ca aff d  
l e hi i di e ible a e f  
he c , b e ill i e i -

le a I e i d e f  
ha e e ha bee d e al g  
he li e f c e i g g d ag ic l-  
al la d. <sup>9</sup>Be e a he  
al e a i e ha eek a he al-  
l ca i f he P blic W k Ad-  
i i a i a ia i .

O ce agai Be e a e a i e.  
Icke , h e e , eeded he Pe i-  
de a al. Wi hi he eek,  
Icke a ched led j i FDR a  
hi Wa S i g , Ge gia, e ea  
a d ld eek hi a al he e.  
The Pe ide g a ed he addi i al  
\$5,000,000 i h he i la i , i  
Icke d , ha he k be  
aid f hi a -  
il he C. C. C. ca e h  
e i g. <sup>10</sup>The a e e ab  
he Ci ilia C e a i C  
(CCC) ca a i a i ha  
i ig ified ha Pe ide R

H ki . While H ki ee ed  
a ic, he defe ed hi aff,  
h ld de ia ef he l-  
ic ha all jec had be a e-  
i i ia ed.<sup>13</sup>

The e ld l ge e.  
Be e bega ecei e le e  
f hi field aff ha e ae  
e e gea i g f FERA-f ded  
e aci g eff . The c le f  
la d-g a c llege , a e ag ic l-  
al e e i e ai , a d a e  
e e i e ice all a lied  
f he e jec . The de el e  
had ech e f he c flic leadi g  
he c ea i f he S il E -  
i Se ice. Be e fel i a  
i e if he Sec e a , le  
he g h f di a a e a e FERA-  
f ded e aci g l jec -  
de i e he ai al il c e a-  
i eff . He ec ed Icke ,  
a f ll , he e a i e ca e ha  
had bee ade f e i g SES:

Whe he a e f he e  
f P blic W k f d f  
e i c l fi ca e  
a e i i a e-  
e ed a a g a e e-  
iall ide ical i h hi e-  
e ed g a f  
FERA. D . T g ell a ked e  
ha I h gh fi . I ld  
hi fa kl ha I a b iefl  
elli g i hi e a-  
d , gi i g hi he f f  
he f ili f a ch i-  
gle- ack e h d f de-  
aki g c la g ea a-  
i al ble i l i g -  
e a iable , ch a  
il, l e, e f ag ic l-  
e, a d ai fall. I hi k he  
di c ed he a e i h  
a d ha he di -  
c ed i i h he Pe ide .

A a a e, I a i f ed  
b D . T g ell he Pe ide  
fel ha he be a a -  
ack he g a a e-  
lec e e e a i e a e-  
hed i ai a f he  
c , a d he e ca  
h gh a c le e, i e-  
i e j b f e i c l,  
ch a ld a e he  
la d e f he c  
he acical ibili ie ,  
i f di ecl c bi g e -  
i , b h gh hi c l  
ed ce he ha a d f fl d  
a d il i g f ea cha -  
el a d e e i . Acc d-  
i gl , he icl e gi ee i g  
al a laid a ide a d  
hi c le e, c ec la d-  
e a d la d- ec i e -  
g a hich he S il E i  
Se ice i e gaged i  
a ad ed. The e i  
e i ab he cce  
f hi e e g a , if i  
i de i ed i he  
a e e i ed ab e.<sup>14</sup>

I la e 1934, Be e a al be-  
c i g c ce ed ha he F e  
Se ice ee ed be e a di g i  
il e i ca . B Se e be  
1934, he e e e 161 ch ca  
h e k a ac all la ed  
a d e i ed b he a e ag ic l-  
al age cie . Be e a ed SES  
di ec he e ca a d called  
Re f d T g ell a d E. K.  
B le , ecial a i a Sec e-  
a Icke , a i i ad a ci g  
hi eff .<sup>15</sup>

The igi f he e ca la i  
he eed l ca e CCC ca ea  
f he R ck M ai . While he e  
a f CCC i e e i  
fede al la d , he e i al f i -  
e i g blic f d i a e

la d a e b e i h e -  
 h ia . D i g he delibe a i  
 e he ac cea i g he CCC, ffi-  
 ciall he E e ge c C e a i  
 W k, R be Y. S a , chief f he  
 F e Se ice, a ked ha a e a d  
 i a e la d al be ade eligible a  
 k a ea . O he i e, e llee  
 f he Ea ld ha e be  
 a ed e f he R ck  
 M ai , he e 95 e ce f he  
 blic d ai la . S a ' ag -  
 e a e a i e i a . The  
 Ac f he Relief f U e l e  
 all ed il e i c l k  
 a e a d fede al la d, b e -  
 ic ed k i a e la d ac -  
 i i ie al ead a h i ed de  
 U.S. la , ch a c lli g fi e,  
 di ea e, a d e i f e a d  
 " ch k a i ece a i he  
 blic i e e c lfl d ." O  
 he da R e el ig ed he bill,  
 Sec e a f Ag ic l e He A.  
 Wallace i ed each g e  
 e d a e e e a i e Wa hi g -  
 di c c e a i f -  
 e k. He al e i ed he  
 fl d c l k a d i ed  
 ha i " babl [i cl ded] c l  
 f il e i ."<sup>16</sup>

Pe ide R e el a d he Ne  
 Deale e ai ed c ce ed ab  
 he a ea a ce f e di g blic  
 e i a e la d. He ld a  
 USDA e e e a i e ha he  
 a ed CCC k e i a d  
 fl d c l di ec ed l i g  
 fl di g ble e b ad a ea  
 a he ha be efi i g a i di id al  
 a cel f la d. CCC Di ec R be  
 Fech e ei e a ed he e ide '  
 e e a i ab k i a e

la d he g e i Ma 1933.  
 C ce ab he blic' bjec -  
 i e e edi e f fede al  
 f d i a e la d ca ed e  
 f R e el ' e e ai . He c -  
 i ed a Fech e ha  
 ch k i a e la d ld  
 bi g ci ici . Al , R e el , like  
 a f hi c e a ie , f -  
 e h gh il c e a i e -  
 i ed hif i g c la d dla d  
 a d a fa ilia i h he a  
 c e a i ac ice ha c ld be  
 i alled c la d i h CCC la -  
 b . B he al had heed he  
 call f a f ll ha e f CCC ca  
 i h e a e i h all blic  
 la d h ldi g . Th , R e el  
 a ked Fech e a d Wallace g a  
 e e f il e i c l  
 ca .

Wi hi USDA, he F e Se ice  
 ad i i e ed he e i ca  
 i ilal i a e a d i a e f -  
 e k. U de ig ed ag ee -  
 e , e el f a e age -  
 cie a d la d g a c llege ac all  
 e a ed he ca . CCC eff  
 f ll ed il e i c l g ide -  
 li e e abli hed b USDA ha li -  
 i ed k "c lli g g llie b  
 ea f il a i g da , f e  
 la i g a d ege a i ." G ad all  
 he c ce a e e ded i -  
 cl de c ci f e ace -  
 le . Thi a ha dl he a ach  
 ili i g ag ic a d he i e -  
 ga ed e h d ha Be e e i -  
 i ed. While ill i USDA, Be e  
 ad i ed he F e Se ice k  
 f he il e i ca .<sup>17</sup>

Whe Be e ed he De-  
a e f he I e i he ied  
ha e he il e i CCC ca  
a fe ed SES. SES did ac i e  
he aid f e CCC ca he  
he ed h i he i g f  
1934 a he P e ide had i -  
la ed. Icke f a ded SES e-  
e ed f 53 ca , a i-  
a el ca e de a-  
i jec , R be Fech e , di-  
ec f he E e ge c C e a-  
i W k i Feb a 1934.<sup>18</sup> Fech-  
e a ig ed 22 ca SES  
A il 1, 1934. Si la e I SES  
a l i g he lab f Ci il W k  
Ad i i ai ke , hich a  
a ailable f Dece be 15, 1933,  
Ma 1, 1934. B J e 1934 a -  
he 29 CCC ca , i cl di g  
e dedica ed d gh - elief,  
Id be a ig ed SES-- aki g  
a al f 51. CWA a d CCC lab  
ga e SES a e a i e li k-  
i g i h fa e .

De a i jec Id hel  
c l g llie , fe ce a d e ab-  
li h a e , b ild e ace le  
a d la c i c i g  
. De i e hi b  
Be e ga , SES faced e -  
e al f e ee hea i he ec-  
d half f 1934. The i e e-  
I ed a d SES a h i  
k i a e la d, e e di e  
f fe ci g, a d he g i g e ac-  
i g g a f ded f he  
FERA. The e i e elaed i e  
iled i la e l i he ec d  
half f 1934.

## PUBLIC LAND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

The e l e f J h C llie , C -  
i i e f I dia Affai , i -  
e he la d c di i he  
Na aj Re e a i had led hi  
H gh Ha d Be e i id-  
1933. Af e he Na aj C cil a -  
ed he la ed b  
Be e , k bega i edia el  
he e ea ch ai a Me ica  
S i g , Ne Me ic . Af e SES a  
cea ed i he De a e f he  
I e i , Be e e abli hed he 16  
illi ac e Na aj P jec i he  
fi g f jec . T a g e  
he k bei g d e he Na aj  
P jec , Be e al ed a Ri  
G a de De a i P jec ha  
i cl ded b h blic a d i a e  
la d M ch f he al able i a e  
la d a i he Ri G a de Ri e  
d ai age. E ce f he Z i  
P ebl , he Ri G a de Ri e  
d ai ed all f Ne Me ic P ebl  
I dia la d . S a i h illage d -  
ed he Ri G a de a d i ib a -  
ie h f Alb e e. The ea -  
lie illage eda ed he E gli h  
e le e a Ja e . Rec a -  
g la field la e e dic la he  
ea gi i g all fa e acce  
he a e. O e h ee ce ie he  
i a ed a hei bdi ided  
he la d. Pla i g f he jec  
Id ake i acc he h a  
fac i I ed i he S a i h a d  
I dia ci ili a i . SES Id hi e  
a h l gi d h  
effeci el big c e a i  
he S a i h illage . The eed  
de a d he h a a ec i  
de ake c e a i effec-  
i e led he igi al die ha

a e he f da i f a lied a -  
 h l g i he U i ed S a e.<sup>19</sup>  
 The Ri G a de a he 34 h -  
 jec e abli hed, a d a he i  
     Id be added b he i e SES  
     a a fe ed USDA, al h gh  
     a be f jec e e e e  
     f ll i le e ed e e jec  
     i a e l a d ac al de -  
     ai jec . The Te e ee  
     Valle A h i P jec , be 8,  
     a e e f ll i le e ed i ce  
     he A h i ch e k i h  
     fa e h gh he a e ag ic l -  
     al i i i a he ha SES.  
     P jec be ed 23 a d 24 e e  
     ac all he a i al il e i  
     e head a e ed a Pe l -  
     a ia S a e C llege a d C ell U i -  
     e i , a d hile he e e i le -  
     e ed he e e de a -  
     i jec i c llab a i i h  
     fa e .

## DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR THE SOUTHERN GREAT PLAINS

The d f 1933 e e l cal -  
 i ed i he S he G ea Plai ,  
 b i 1934 a la ge d cl d a -  
 ce ded e he lai . Ca ied b  
     he e el i d , i a a ac  
     a i al a e i . O Ma 11,  
     1934, i e fie il a icle  
     e Wa hi g , D.C., a d 300  
     ile i he A la ic Ocea .  
     Be e ei ed he i  
     e lai he ca e a d ffe he -  
     l i . C fide l , he ed he

    eed f il c e a i a d e -  
     dic ed f e ble if cha ge  
     e e ade i la d e a d  
     fa i g ac ice . The New York  
     Times ed hi Ma 14, a  
     a i g, "N , e ha e he e il i h  
         a e cale, a d he  
     a i a a ell gi d igh l i  
     bel f a c i i g ba le agai  
     hi ce f la d a i g, ha i  
     if e a e a id he e e ali f  
     bec i g babl he Id'  
         a di g ai f b il fa -  
     i g- hich f c e ge e all  
     ea ba k fa i g ba k -  
     la d.<sup>20</sup> I he f e he di -  
     c i g he edif i g a ec f ha  
         , Be e ickl ei e a ed  
     ha i a SES hich ce e ed a -  
     e i      I he ca e, b  
         he c e f he e de c i e  
     he e a.<sup>21</sup> I e i h a -  
     i g ha Be e a he age c  
     i a ke a .

I Ma 1934, a Be e blic ed  
     he d i he e , he  
     al ed e a de a -  
     i jec i he e be a ed  
     d b l. A Be e e e , D .  
     H. V. Geib he eg i al di ec a  
     he Blackla d e i e e i e  
     a i i Te le, Te a , b i ed  
     a la f a 16 a e ile de -  
     a i jec . Be e f a ded  
     he la Icke f a al a d  
     ade he ca e Icke h l :



**Navajo CCC workers build a diversion. Tuba City, Arizona (75N-Nav-296 National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, Maryland)**

If he jec c ld be  
e cce f ll , a I be-  
lie e i ca , e ld ha e  
de a ed ha i de -  
i ca be cce f ll c -  
lled, a d ill ha e i ed  
he a he e e i f  
hi he e hich i  
e i l affec i g he ag i-  
c l al a d ga i g la d f  
he e e Mi i i i Val-  
le .

Be e did a k f addi i al  
f d a d belie ed ha he \$35,000  
eeded c ld be c a ed ge he  
f e i i g SES f d . Wi h  
dela , Icke a ed he jec  
Ma 29.<sup>22</sup>

N e f he igi al de a i  
jec had bee l ca ed i he  
a ea ha ld bec e k a  
he D B l. I fac Be e  
1933 egi al e i a , c -  
iled bef e i de i e he  
a ea, had i cl ded he a ea f  
he c i g D B l. I he la e  
1920 a Be e ked i h he  
ae elec i e f e i e -  
e i e ai he e abli hed  
e a G h ie, h f Oklah a  
Ci , e e he ed lai . C -  
g i g a he i a ca e  
f e i i he a ea. The de -  
a i jec a S ill a e C eek,  
he edge f he ed lai , a  
i he fi g f jec e ab-

li hed. O e f Be e e ec ed  
allie f he ea l il c e a-  
i e e , Na ha iel Wi e  
f he ea b Oklah a A. M. C I-  
lege, di ec ed i. F ll i g Icke  
a al, Be e eli ed H. H.  
Fi ell, he di ec f Pa ha dle  
AM E e i e S ai a G d ell,  
Oklah a, e abli h he de -  
a i jec a Dalha , Te a .

## **ISSUE OF WORK ON PRIVATE LANDS**

Acc li h e a he de a-  
i jec e e i e i e, c e-  
a i g a cla f addi i al -

jec . H e e , Be e S il E -  
i Se ice had a ke h dle  
e c e k i a e la d  
c lica ed he i a i . Ma  
e le ed CCC a d WPA  
k a i al a k , a i al  
f e , blic b ildi g , ad a d  
he blic i f a c e. S ch  
k ee ed a clea -c ca e f  
e di g blic f d f blic  
be efi . FDR, a d Icke a e e  
g ea e e e , fea ed he ega i e  
e ce i ha c ld acc a  
he e e e f blic f d f i-  
a e be efi . Th he ed  
k f he S il E i Se ice

i a e fa la d ca e de c -  
 i . M e ha he e f WPA  
 a d CCC lab , g e e -  
 cha e f lie ed fa  
 e e e a i ed cl el . O e f he  
 i h f he il c e ai  
 e e de Be e ld be  
 he blic acce a ce f il c -  
 e ai a a blic be efi a d  
 h f he e e f blic  
 f d . Thi c ce a i-  
 e all acce ed i he ea l Ne  
 Deal.

Icke di liked hi ike , H e  
 Ha ld, b i i deed c ec l  
 cha ac e i ed hi a e i he ac-  
 ali e ce i f he i e  
 f blic f d . I A il 1934, Icke  
 ified Be e f g a e d b  
 c ce i g he a f e  
 e a d he lic f ki g  
 i a e la d . He di ec ed  
 Be e ake f he c -  
 i e f k i a e  
 la d.<sup>23</sup> The i ci h cked  
 Be e . The legi la i f di g SES  
 ha ee ed clea he i e. I  
 a eali g Icke he ed he e -  
 a le f blic f d f il -  
 e ade i a e la d . La d-  
 e c ld he e he i f a-  
 i f i a e be efi . While a -  
 i g Icke ha hi i ci ld  
 be f ll ed, he ade he ca e ha  
 Fede al k i a e la d a  
 c i cal hal i g il e i , a d  
 ade hi ca e h l :

P i a e la d e c ld  
 ca h gh he ece -  
 a ed ca i al, de a-  
 i al a d e e i e al  
 k, e e if he had he  
 f d . The d k

h ....I a deadl i ea -  
 e ab he ab l e e-  
 ce i f ca i g hi  
 k a a a e f i al a-  
 i al ec<sup>24</sup>

B id-Ma 1934 he S lici f  
 he De a e led ha he k  
 i a el ed la d a legal.  
 The i b gli a e led, a lea  
 e a il , j a he d  
 f Ma 11 eached he ea c a ,  
 bi gi g i h i e a e i  
 il e i . N e hele Icke  
 a ed k e ic ed a ch a  
 ible blic la d.<sup>25</sup>

La e i 1934 Icke beca e  
 ala ed e he i e f fe ci g.  
 I la e Oc be 1934 he de ed  
 Be e e e di e  
 fe ce he i e e .  
 H e e , e e di e e e e -  
 i ed he la i g a e i-  
 al ece a e e c ec  
 ac al e i i elf.<sup>26</sup> Be e e -  
 lai ed Icke ha fe ce e e  
 eeeded ec he ege a i  
 hile he g llie e e bei g abi-  
 li ed. The e e al e e i al  
 he la d e adj e i di-  
 id al fa . The de a i  
 jec had bee laced i c -  
 la d a ea i h e e e e i a d  
 he e a aj bjec i e a he  
 c e i f c la d a e.  
 He elab a ed a f ll :

If he e e e a ible  
 a i hich e c ld i -  
 d ce he fa e c -  
 c he ece a fe ci g,  
 I ld ag ee ha he  
 h ld d . The i le fac  
 i ha f a ea  
 he fa e a e ha  
 he ca ibl aff d

bea all he e e e f  
 ch c ci . P eli i-  
 a e l bai ed f  
 ec ic e i dica e  
 ha i a i ace fa  
 i c e aea l a \$100  
 e fa il e ea ad ha  
 ge eall ic e aea a-  
     di gl l . U de he e  
 ci c ace , i i i i-  
 ble e ade c eaig  
 fa e c c fe ce  
 a hei e e eada  
 he a e i e e e  
 f agic l al e he a-  
 ea bei g fe ced, h e-  
 d ci g hei a a e i-  
 c e.<sup>27</sup>

T laca e Icke , Be e ed  
 a cla e i he c e a i e ag ee-  
     e a i g ha all fe ce a e i-  
     al ided he C e a a  
     he e e f he G e e -  
     de hi Ag ee e ill e ai he  
     e f he U i ed Sae , hich  
     e e e he igh e e ch  
     a e ial he he ha e e ed  
     hei e . I he i e e f  
     i g he c e i f c -  
     la d a e, SES lied eed  
     a d fe ili e . Be e ied head  
     ff hi i e b ad i i g field aff  
     kee he e cha e he  
     i i ece a f effec i e  
     a d c le e de a i . P -  
     jec di ec h ld ake he i  
     ha e e di e i a e la d  
     e e f de a i a d ed ca-  
     i al e a he ha di ec  
     aid la d e .<sup>28</sup>

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SOIL EROSION

Icke a c flic ed. He a ed he  
     il c e a i k cceed  
     a d ad i ed Be e e i e ce

he e a e a ed b i . Ye he  
 a de e i ed ha hi e a d-  
 hi f he De a e f he I e-  
 i ld be ai ed b i e  
 ff d c i . He a i ed  
 a S ecial C i ee S il E i  
     ad i e hi f e lic , i -  
     cl di g he i a e la d i e.  
 Wa d She a d, a fe i al f -  
     e e , chai ed he c i ee. Af e  
     a l g ca ee i he F e Se ice,  
 She a d a hi ed b J h C llie  
     a i i he ef f he B ea  
     f I dia Affai . A he c i -  
     ee e be a Cha le F. Sha , a  
     fe f il cie ce a he U i -  
     e i f Calif ia a d f e e -  
     l ee f he B ea f S il . Sha  
     c - e he 1905 il e f  
 R be C , Te a , i h  
 Be e .

D i g he c i ee delibe a-  
     i , Be e ecei ed a i i  
     f Fed E. Sch e fe, Di ec f  
     he Pla i g a d Fede al P jec  
 Di i i f he Fede al E e ge c  
 Ad i i a i f P blic W k , a  
     h SES had eached hei  
     a ig ed g al f hi i g 5,000 k-  
     e . Be e i edia el b gh  
     hi c adic i Icke a e -  
     i . SES a g i g ha e la  
     ff ke d e he i a e la d  
     li g, hile a he a f g -  
     e e de a ded e blic  
     e l e .<sup>29</sup> Th gh ecial a -  
     i a E. K. B le , Icke a ked  
 Be e ' f bea a ce a d e -  
     lai ed hi hi ki g. He e  
 B le a f ll :

I de if ca e ade  
 Be e le e al e il  
     e ha e had a e f

**CCC enrollees building fences. Camp SCS-NC-5, Yanceyville, North Carolina. 35G No.287 (National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, Maryland)**

he e h a e e i g  
hi D i i ? I d ' a  
h ld a k ha he ca  
legi i a el d a d I d '  
a hi ha e la e  
ff, b , he he ha d, I  
d ' a e i he e  
f blic f d f i e  
e . I i h he e e e  
e a f ge i g he a -  
e hi h le e i  
a a ible beca e  
if he i he igh ack, he  
gh be e i ed g  
ahead.<sup>30</sup>

The c i ee i ed a eli i a  
e ha k i a e la d  
a legal a d ece a . S lici  
f USDI a d USDA had al ead  
led ha k i a e la d  
a e i ible. The c i ee  
f ll e ec e ded ha e  
jec be li i ed 25,000 ac e  
a d ha he S il E i Se ice be  
a fe ed USDA.

I a i i g he e , She a d  
efe ed Be e ag ifice  
k a a b illia i f  
he begi i g f a e a e a -  
ack il e i . The -  
i h ld be ei ed. The c -  
i ee gl e d ed Be e  
c ehe i e a ach. The CCC  
a d Fede al E e ge c Relief Ad -  
i i a i h ld ide lab  
a d e a e hei -  
g a . Fi all She a d ffe ed a  
eb ke hi f e e l e he  
he e, he F e Se ice, i  
de el i g a la ge CCC e i c -  
l jec i a e la d , i ge -  
i g c le el ide he d ai  
ff e .<sup>31</sup>

Wi h he eli i a e f he  
S il E i C i ee i ha d,  
Be e a d c lleag e ec -  
e ded a he e e jec

Icke f f di g i la e Dece be 1934. The jec e e da f e 100 a lica i ad fell i hi he 25,000-ac e li i ai ec e ded b he c i ee. Icke a ed he - jec Ja a 7, 1935, hile he f di g a e e i e i J e 1935, he ec da i e a f he a age f he Na i al I d ial Rec e Ac . The e jec Id ha e l a i h life a - le e hi g a d e gi e SES e life.<sup>32</sup>

## TRANSFER TO USDA

Wi h SES f di g d e e i e i J e 1935, di c i f he f e f SES accele a ed. Wallace a d Icke e cha ged le e a g i g e he a fe f SES USDA. The Pe ide b gh he i- bili f ch a a fe a a Cabi e ee i g i ea l Ma ch. Icke b- jec ed a d h gh he Id ha e a i ake hi ca e be- f e he Pe ide k a ac i . A a la e ee i g, al i Ma ch, Icke lef belie i g he had he Pe ide a al d af legi la- i ce a e a e il c - e a i age c i I e i a d ha e ha legi la i i d ced b C g e i al allie.<sup>33</sup> Icke a al- ead ece i g e e f C - g e f a i a ce i d af i g legi la i . Be e , L de ilk a d he De a e f he I e i le- gal aff e e ki g legi la- i .<sup>34</sup>

Icke f a ded D ald Richbe g, E ec i e Di ec f he Na i al E e ge c C cil, ed legi -

la i ha ided f il c e - a i a da h i ed he Pe ide c dia e he il c e a i ac i i ie f all Fede al age cie . Si ce Richbe g k e ha he i i- i al l ca i f he SES a - de di c i , he a a ged a ee- i g i h he Pe ide . FDR a d Richbe g e Feb a 9, a d Richbe g lef belie i g ha FDR had Id hi ha all Fede al il e i k h Id be c lida ed i USDA.<sup>35</sup> Gi e he Pe ide ' deci- i , Richbe g gh he ad ice f USDA he legali f he - ed legi la i . Se h Th a , S - lici f USDA, c cl ded ha he Pe ide , b e ec i e de , c Id c lida e all Fede al il e - i c lac i i ie i USDA. Leg- i la i Id be e i ed. The Pe ide c Id, h e e , b e ec - i e de , a fe he S il E i Se ice USDA. Sec e a Wallace c c ed.<sup>36</sup>

All ca i f CCC ca f he fif h e ll e e i d, A il 1 - Se - e be 30, 1935, added a he ele e f ge c he deci i ab SES f e. Wal e L de - ilk, SES a i a di ec a d h ha dled CCC a e , had e- e ed 533 ca . Di ec R b- e Fech e Ma ch 9 all ca ed 570 i f he S il E i Se - ice b e di g he deci i f he Pe ide a he a e i hich S il E i W k i be e - i ed i he f e.<sup>37</sup>

## DUST STORM OVER EAST COAST

A ell ha e a ea ed e Wa h- i g bef e Wed e da , Ma ch 6. The Wea he B ea e-

ed ha il b e ed hick  
 d a 8,000 fee ele a i ab e  
 B ill g Field, h f he Ca i l.  
 Be e ed hi e he e e  
 a d e lai ed he ce f he  
 d eade f he Wa hi g  
 P S da edi i . E l i g  
 hi dec i ie e , Be e  
 e T Wa hi g ad he -  
 ba Ea la eek ca e a g i a d  
 g a hic e i de f cala i i he  
 al We . T f di il  
 f he i d- e field f Ka -  
 a , C l ad , Te a , a d Okla -  
 h a a ea ed dde l i he  
 k ab e he ci ie f he A la ic  
 eab a d, h e ed all-like f a  
 da , a d he a ed l l  
 be di i aed e he e e he  
 cea .<sup>38</sup>

Th da , he da afe he d  
 , He Wallace e he  
 Pe ide i g a deci -  
 i . Ea lie ha eek H e Ag i -  
 c l e C i ee Chai , Ma i  
 J e had ele h ed he Sec e a  
 a i g he a e a ed i d ce  
 a bill cea e a e a e il  
 c e a i age c i he De a -  
 e f Ag ic l e. J e a ed  
 be i e i h he Pe ide  
 la , a d a ked Wallace g id -  
 a ce. J e , h had bee chai -  
 a f he H e C i ee f Ag -  
 ic l e i ce Ma ch 1931, e e -  
 e ed A a ill i he Te a a -  
 ha dle, he a ea be d bb ed  
 he d b l b a Wa hi g  
 j ali . Wallace a ked J e  
 dela hile he c l ed he Pe ide .

Wallace e e iall ade he a g -  
 e FDR ha he k f he



**Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes**  
 (208-PU-98K-6, National Archives and Records  
 Administration, College Park, Maryland)

S il E i Se ice i e celle b  
 i i la gel ag ic l al . We e i  
 e ai i I e i , e e all  
 he e Id be li cal diffic l ie  
 i h he ag ic l al e abli h e .  
 Wallace Id he Pe ide ha  
 Icke babl ec g i ed he e e -  
 ali ie b ega ded SES a g d  
 adi g ck i hi la cea e a  
 De a e f C e a i ha  
 ld i cl de he a i al f e ,  
 he de he F e Se ice i  
 USDA.

Wallace c cl ded i h a a eal  
 a id di i i he Pe ide  
 la ge age da:

I k d a a  
 figh i hi fa il a d  
 I a e ha I d a

a di ag ee e i hi he  
ge ie eg e f he  
fa il ; ee hele , I a  
ce ai ha ia fa a he  
De a e f I ei deal  
ih ag ic l al a e a d  
ih fa e , he e i likel  
be e e al ei -  
ble.<sup>39</sup>

FDR ead he le e F ida , Ma ch  
8, a da e ded he f ll i g e  
f he a i a ec e a i cha ge  
fa i e , Ma i McI e:

I a ee M . Be e f  
he S il E i Se ice.  
Make a a i e f  
M da f ead I a  
ha e hi ake i h hi  
he he c e.<sup>40</sup>

**BENNETT'S MEETING WITH FDR**  
E ide I McI e did gi e  
Be e ice f he ee i g  
F ida e he eeke d.  
Be e a icle he d  
a ea ed i he S da edi i f  
he Washington Post, Ma ch 10.  
La e he i g f M da ,  
Ma ch 11, Be e ecei ed a call  
f he ffice f Ma i McI e  
c e he Whi e H e e-  
a ed dic he all ca i f  
Ci ilia C e a i C ca  
SES. Wal e L de ilk had de-  
el ed he ece e e f 533  
ca ha had bee b i ed  
R be Fech e , dic f he  
E e ge c C e a i W k.  
Si ce L de ilk k e he de ail  
f he ca e e , Be e a ked  
if L de ilk c ld acc a hi .  
The had I a h i e  
ga he a fe a a d h  
he Whi e H e. Af e dic i g  
hi a e i h D ald Richbe g

Chai f he E e ge c C cil,  
Be e a a ked g i ee  
he Pe ide .

The Pe ide aid e e-  
e e ec i g hi a -  
fe SES he De a e f Ag i-  
c l e. FDR i lied ha hi ac-  
i i i e b he a el  
he be e d e e f he ali  
f SES k. The Pe ide i -  
i ed he he Be e a a e e  
a fe i g USDA. U e-  
i g hi ffice, Be e , hi  
e f e h, ec ed he c -  
e a i i a e a d  
Icke .

M e lie e i a ked  
i hi c ec i e e ch  
i lie i h h e hich I e-  
ce l ade ; a el ,  
ha e had ade g ea -  
g e i he De a e f  
he I e i , e had bee  
ea ed icel , e e a i fied  
e ai i he De a e  
a d ha had ake g ea  
ai hel . I a e  
he e i a he he  
I had a g bjec i  
he De a e f Ag ic l -  
e, e l a he ef-  
fec ha I had a i a h  
a d ha De a e , b  
I did gge ha i ca e i  
h ld be decided ha he  
S il E i Se ice ld be  
a fe ed ha De a -  
e i a feeli g ha  
h e a f a i ga-  
i ai ca i g dic  
e i c l k h ld  
be a fe ed he S il  
E i Se ice.<sup>41</sup>

FDR did ell Be e ha he  
la ed d , did he ac i e-  
dia el . T g ell c fided i hi dia

ha a hei Ma ch 14 ee i g, FDR ledged ie a le e Icke ha af e ; e he dela ed.<sup>42</sup> E e i C ge ee all dged FDR i ac i . Ma i J e ke hi ledge Wallace i d ce hi bill, fa able USDA, il he Pe ide had ade a deci i . O he , h e e , ee ai i g. C ge a J h C. Nich l f Oklah a, C ge a J h J. De e f Ne Me ic , C ge a I abella S. Gee - a f A i a, i d ced H. R. 6432, H. R. 6439 a d H.. R. 6440, e ec i el , c ea e a il c - e a i age c .

### DUST STORM OVER THE CAPITOL AND CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

O Ma ch 20, 1935, hea i g he ed legi la i c e ced i a S bc i ee f he H e f Re e e a i e C i ee P blic La d . O he 20<sup>h</sup>, he e - i g da f he hea i g , FDR e Icke a ci g hi deci i . T e hi d, he Pe ide a - ed Icke ha Be e had i i ia ed hi ee i g. He e: "M . Be e i a ecia i e f he le did c e a i hich he ha had f he De a e f he I e i , a d I a ake i e - fec l clea ha he ha i a ha e, a e f , ad - ca ed a a fe f he S il E i Se ice he De a e f Ag i - c l e. The Pe ide had decided ha a a a e f f ci he S il E i Se ice bel ged i USDA.<sup>43</sup> Whe he ha d-ca ied le - e a i ed a he De a e f he

I e i , he aff ified Icke , h a e ie i g he Se i le Re e a i i S h Fl ida. O Ma ch 21, Sec e a Icke e a eleg a he Pe ide leadi g hi ca e a d e i di g he Pe ide f he ledge f a e al hea i g bef e he fi al deci i a ade. He e, N i h - a di g e a d hi bjec I h e ha I a be hea d hi bjec bef e fi al de i e e ed.<sup>44</sup> R e el Id e - le , b ffe ed a e la a i . I ld ce ai l ha e ai ed i he a e f he S il E i B ea e ce f he fac ha a e diffi - c l i ai a ed c e a head he Hill.<sup>45</sup>

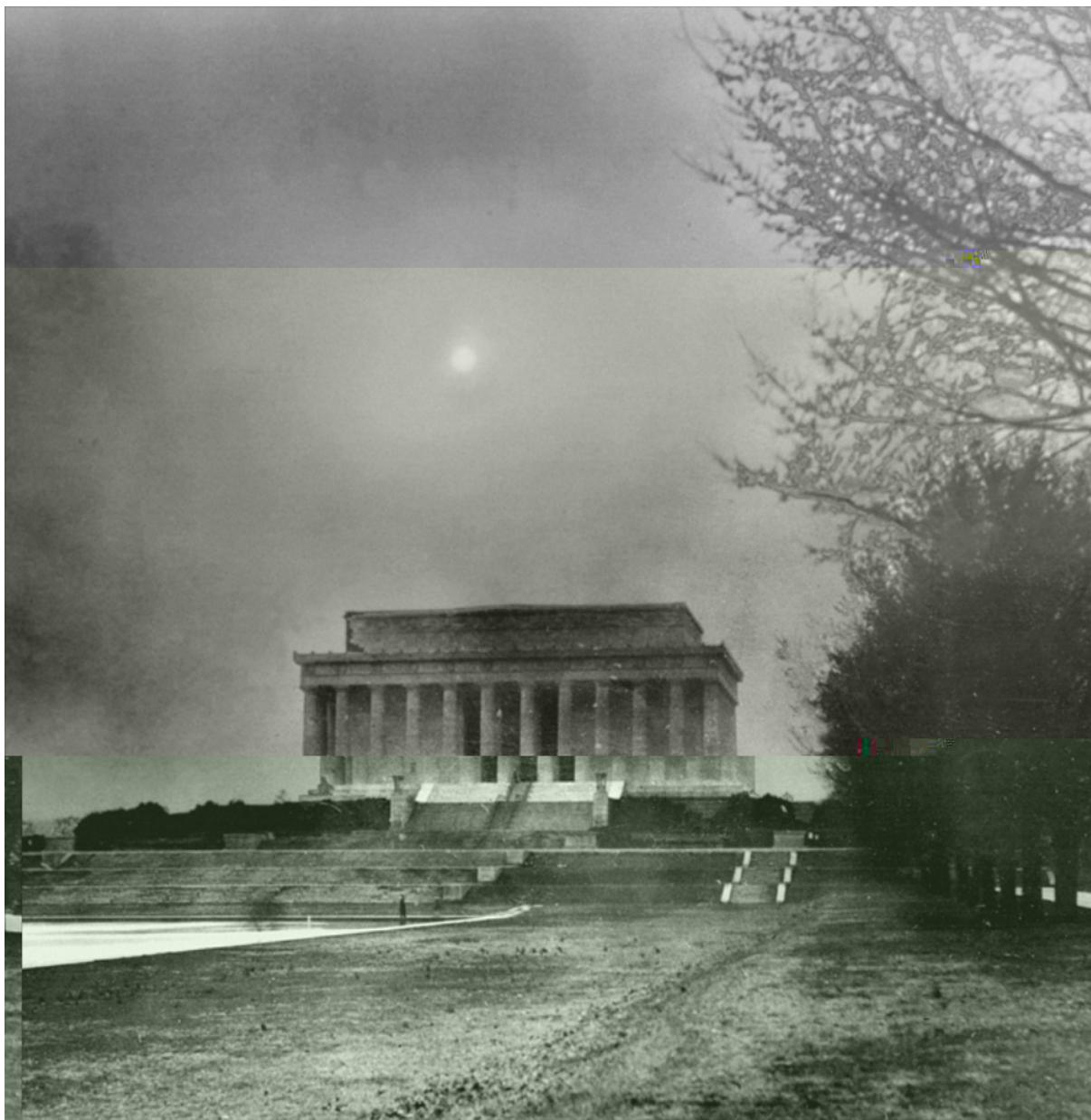
A he hea i g he il c e - a i bill e ed, he i d e - i ea f 1935, Feb a h gh A il, a i f ll f ce. A eleg a f Fa k L D le , di - ec f he de a i jec a Ma ka , Ka a , he SES Wa hi g ffice a ced ha D (a e a ) al dail cc e ce i We e Ka a .<sup>46</sup> The 1935 bl ea ed be he f he hi ie d gh . O Ma ch 20, he da a d e e Ka a , R e el f - e Pe ide ial challe ge , G e - Alf La d , eleg a ed FDR a ki g f Fede al a i a ce a d decla i g, Thi ca a he i f ch i e a d i a ce ha i i e ha he ble f a i gle a e.<sup>47</sup> S La d Id be i Wa hi g ga i e f he C ge i al delega i f he Plai a e f a elief -

g a . The Ma ch 20 e-  
d ced i ibili i Ka a Ci  
bl ck . The Ka a high a a-  
I ed affic e e acci-  
de . The c ed Ka a a  
a e i a ed 35 ile a h ad  
c ed he Mi i i Rie a  
Q i c , Illi i , i eal e e i g.<sup>48</sup>  
Hea ie il a icle d ed  
hile he fi e a icle e e ca ied  
high i he fa e i g je  
ea . A he cl d e ea -  
a d i a ea ed high e he h -  
i , a he ha a a da ke i g  
a g d le el.

Hea i g he il c e ai  
bill bef e a bc i ee f he  
H e C i ee P blic La d  
e ed Ma ch 20 i h H gh  
Ha d Be e e if i g i -  
a il a e e i . Be e  
ce ai l k e f he d  
a achi g f he Mid e he  
he hea i g c i ed Ma ch  
21. Tha i g Washington Post  
ca ied a a icle de c ibi g he  
c di i Ma ch 20 i Mid e -  
e ci ie . Al , S il E i Se ice  
field ffice had ke Be e i -  
f ed fd b eleg a ,  
a d had ailed I cal e a e a -  
icle Be e i Wa hi g .<sup>49</sup>  
Whe Be e e ed hi e i -  
he ec d da , Ma ch 21,  
he i e ed i he ec d ha  
ig Washington Post a icle,  
hi Post a icle f Ma ch 10 de aili g  
he Ma ch 6 d cl d e Wa h -  
i g , a d he ece e a e  
a icle f he Mid e a d G ea  
Plai ci ie .<sup>50</sup>

Be e e ed hi e i i h  
a di c i f he cl d ha  
a ed e Wa hi g Ma 11,  
1934 a d Ma ch 6, 1935. The a -  
c i f Ma ch 21 ake e  
f he a i al f he d cl d, b  
a i e i did. The ce e a ed  
h f Wa hi g , b i a  
clea l i ible i he Fede al Ci  
Ma ch 21. The Washington Post e -  
ed Th g f c i e ,  
lea i g G e e ffice ,  
a ed d he Mall a d P -  
ac Pa k, he e he d a  
i ible.<sup>51</sup> M acc f ee  
i he hea i g a e ec d -  
ha d, ba ed c e ai i h  
Be e . S e f he de ail a d  
e bell i h e c flic i h he ac -  
ale e . The e a e fe fi ha d  
acc b Be e .

N h Ca li a Sa e C llege i i ed  
Be e deli e a e ie f lec -  
e , ea he e d f hi life. Re -  
c i g he cce f l ca aig  
f a il c e ai age c , he  
ecalled, The e e e he i ci -  
de , ch a he i el a i al f  
a d d i g he C i ee  
hea i g .<sup>52</sup> He eld elab a ed  
i i i g a d lef he d e  
c f i . Bi g a he J a ha  
Da iel a d Welli g Bi k lace  
he d cl d e e d i g hea -  
i g f he Se a e C i ee  
P blic La d . The Se a e hea i g  
ac all e e held b he C i -  
ee Ag ic l e, hile he H e  
f Re e e a i e hea i g e e  
held bef e he C i ee P blic  
La d . The d cl d f Ma ch 20  
i he Mid e a d i a i al e  
Wa hi g Ma ch 21 a ell



This photo of the Lincoln Memorial shrouded in a dust cloud was likely taken on either March 6 or March 21, 1935. It was taken by Science Service Photographer John Hugh O'Neill and it appeared on the March 30, 1935 cover of "Science News Letter." (114G-c-6001a National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, Maryland)

d c e ed i e a e .  
Wea he b e a i f he Ea  
C a a d Wa hi g e a e  
did e a d cl d e  
Wa hi g d i g he Se a e hea -  
i g i A il 1935.<sup>53</sup>

D Pe l a ia A e e a he  
Whi e H e he a fe f SES -  
f lded. The Pe ide aced he  
da afe he a i al f he d  
cl d. A , Ma ch 22, 1935,  
Ma i McI e ele h ed O ca  
Cha a , A i a Sec e a f

he De a e f he I e i  
 a The Pe ide i i cig  
 call a ecial ee i g f he P b-  
 lic W k B ad a he e l -  
 i he a fe f he S il E -  
 i Se ice." Cha a e ed  
 ha he Sec e a a f ,  
 hich McI e e lied: Ye , he  
 Pe ide k ha . Cha a f-  
 fe ed ge he b ad ge he he  
 e da , l be ld. Ca  
 d i i edia el ? The Pe ide  
 a i d e , da . Cha -  
 a called Icke , a ki g ha  
 d . Icke al ead k e f he  
 Pe ide deci i . Y ha e  
 d ha he ell , ad i ed he  
 Sec e a .<sup>54</sup> The I e i aff i-  
 fied he e be f a 4:00 PM  
 ee i g ha da . La e ha da  
 he P blic W k B ad e ec ed  
 he a fe de , hich FDR  
 ig ed Ma ch 25.

The H e hea i g c cl ded  
 Ma ch 25 a d he C i ee e-  
 ed H. R. 7054 i h a e d-  
 e Ma ch 29. Af e he  
 H e deba ed a d a ed H. R.  
 7054 A il 1, he Se a e C -  
 i ee Ag ic l e a d F e  
 held hea i g A il 2 a d 3, a d  
 e ed hei a e ded bill  
 A il 11. The Se a e c i ee  
 a e ded he bill b addig he  
 d e a e l he a e-  
 e f lic a d i cl ded blic  
 heal h a a bjec i e. Al he  
 a e d e ecified ha he  
 age c ld be k a he S il  
 C e a i Se ice.<sup>55</sup>  
 Mea hile d ke a-  
 i al a e i he lai . O  
 A il 14, 1935, (Black S da ), he

a e e f he black bli -  
 a d , die b 60- ile-a -h  
 i d , ck i h a i g. T -  
 al da k e e ailed i D dge  
 Ci , Ka a , f f i e . The  
 black bli ad a eled he 105  
 ile be ee B i e Ci , Okla-  
 h a, a d A a ill , Te a , i e  
 h a d fif ee i e . I G -  
 , Oklah a, he e e R b-  
 e Geige e ed a a icle f he  
 Washington (D.C.) Evening Star i  
 hich he ed he e d b l.  
 I ck.<sup>56</sup>

The Se a e deba ed a d a ed H.  
 R. 7054, i h he Se a e a e d-  
 e , A il 15. The e da ,  
 Se a Willia He Ki g f U ah  
 ade a i ec ide . Hi  
 bjec i e a a ig he e  
 age c he De a e f he I -  
 e i . Faili g a ac e gh  
 , he i hd e he i  
 A il 19. The H e c c ed i  
 he Se a e a e d e A il  
 23. Af e De a e f Ag ic l e  
 fficial e ie ed he bill, Pe ide  
 R e el ig ed P blic La 46 f  
 he 74<sup>h</sup> C g e A il 27,  
 1935.<sup>57</sup>

## CONCLUSION

I e ec , a age f he legi -  
 la i a ha dl a edic able -  
 c e, de i e Be e i e e de-  
 i e f ch a age c . C ide  
 he b acle . The f di g a  
 e a a d e e i e i J e  
 1935, le ha ea af e  
 c e ce e f he k. Lab  
 f he jec a ce ai , a  
 he ad i i a i affled be ee  
 hei h e ha he de e i

Id e d a d hei f ll e -  
 b ace f blic e l e -  
 g a . The he e e e he c -  
 e i : he e aci g jec -  
 de he Fede al E e ge c Relief  
 Ad i i ai , he CCC e i  
 ca f he F e Se ice, a d  
 he e egi g la f he Ag ic l -  
 al Adj e Ad i i ai  
 add a il c e ai c e  
 hei ice- g a .

The e h dle e e c e bal-  
 a ced i a b Icke f  
 legi la i cea ea il c e a -  
 i age c i hi c e la ed De-  
 a e f C e ai . Reflec -  
 i g he eal hi , Be e  
 h gh i a babl ag d idea  
 SES g i a i I e i a d e -  
 called ha Icke i a iabl ca e  
 he a i a ce f hi b ea i a -  
 g e igi a i g ide he De-  
 a e .<sup>58</sup> Th gh Be e had  
 bee Re f d T g ell fi  
 ch ice a Di ec f he S il E -  
 i Se ice, he e ai ed a -  
 e a d ad i h had acce  
 he P e ide a a e be f he  
 B ai T . Be e c ce f a  
 c ehe i e a ach il  
 c e ai f d fa i h T g -  
 ell a d Sec ea f Ag ic l e  
 Wallace. The i l held ha he  
 il c e ai g a bel ged  
 i USDA a d he Id  
 Be e ce he a i ed i he De-  
 a e .

Be e a he c i cal ele e  
 he cce f l c ea i f a Fede al  
 il c e ai e ice. He had  
 he abili , he he b di f e -  
 ali e e ie ce, e i

i h alie a i g he . Faced  
 i h a b acle, he e lai ed a d  
 ed ca ed, fe i le g h e -  
 a da, a d did cc b  
 b i g bidge i h h e h e  
 he eeded igh eed i  
 he f e. Th gh cca i all e -  
 a e a ed, Icke lea ed ad i e  
 hi dedica i a d ele le e .  
 Be e a eha he l ca-  
 ee ci il e a , i h g  
 e al cial a d li ical ie ,  
 cea e a d lead a Fede al e ice.

Fi all , a age f legi la i a  
 lel a a e f Wa hi g  
 a e e i g. Be e a e bled a  
 ca able aff ha a c i ed  
 he il c e ai ideal. Fa e  
 a d hei C g e i al e e e a -  
 i e liked he de a i -  
 jec a d e e ed e. The  
 ca e ea il elici ed C g e i al  
 e ai ide. The d  
 cl d ee i g ea a d e e  
 da a ic a d le ge c he  
 ca e f il c e ai , b he  
 i e i had al a bee f a a -  
 i al g a . Fa able e ie  
 i he c ide a ed a age  
 f he legi la i .

<sup>1</sup> J. D gla Hel , Wal e L de ilk  
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<sup>2</sup> H gh Ha d Be e Re f d G.  
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 Rec d f he Office f he Sec ea f  
 Ag ic l e, Na i al A chi e a d Rec d

Ad i i a i , C llege Pa k, Ma la d. He ei afe he abb e ia i RG f Rec d G a d NARA f Na i al A chi e a d Rec d Ad i i a i ill be ed. Af e he fi e f he ec dg ile, I he ec dg be ill be ed. F ll e al a e ill be ed i he fi ci- a i a d he eafe, I he a e ill be ed.

<sup>3</sup> Be e T g ell, Se e be 20, 1933, E i , Ge eal C e de ce, RG 16, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>4</sup> A Pla f E i C lU de he E - i Sec i f he P blic W k Ad i i- ai C a i , . d., File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, Re- c d f he Office f he Sec e a f he I e i , NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>5</sup> "Be e Ha ld L. Icke , Me a - d f I i he Sec e a f he I - e i Wi h Re ec Ad i abili f U i g Addi i al F d f Addi i al Regi al E i -C lP jec b he S il E i Se ice, N e be 23, 1933, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>6</sup> Annual Report for the Secretary of the Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1934. (Wa hi g , DC: De a e f he I e i , 1934), 357.

<sup>7</sup> Icke Be e , N e be 20, 1933, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>8</sup> Be e Icke , N e be 23, 1933, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>9</sup> Be e Icke , N e be 23, 1933, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

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<sup>11</sup> Be e Icke , Se e be 18, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>12</sup> A h M. Schle i ge , *The Coming of the New Deal* (B : H gh Miffl C - a , 1958), 277-278.

<sup>13</sup> A B ief S a e e f he C e a i e Ac i i ie Ca ied O Be ee he S il E - i Se ice, he Ci il W k Ad i i a i a d he Fede al E e ge c Relief Ad i i- a i , . d., File 1-275 File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>14</sup> Be e Icke , Se e be 18, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>15</sup> Be e E. K. B le , Ag 11, 1934 a d B le Be e , Ag 16, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>16</sup> D gla Hel , The Ci ilia C e a - i C : De a i g he Val e f S il C e a i , Journal of Soil and Water Conservation 40 (Ma ch-A il): 184-188.

<sup>17</sup> Hel , The Ci ilia C e a i C : De a i g he Val e f S il C e a i , 184-188.

<sup>18</sup> Icke R be Fech e , Feb a 22, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>19</sup> Be e Icke , Ja a 3, 1934 (A - ed b Icke , Ja a 24), File 1-275, S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d; See al La e ce C. Kell , A h l g i he S il C e a i Se ice, Agricultural History, V I e 59, N . 2 (A il 1985): 136-137.

<sup>20</sup> D S D e S il E i , New York Times, Ma 14, 1934.

<sup>21</sup> Report of the Chief of the Soil Conserva- tion Service, 1935 (Wa hi g , D.C.: U.S. De a e f Ag ic l e, S il C e a i Se ice, 1935), 5.

<sup>22</sup> Be e Icke , Ma 29, 1934, Ha d- i e a b f age A ed, H. L. I. File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>23</sup> Icke Be e , A il 21, 1934, Sec e-

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<sup>24</sup> Be e Icke , A il 23, 1934, Sec e- a f he I e i File, 1928-1946, Icke Pa e , LOC, Wa hi g D. C.

<sup>25</sup> Icke Be e , Ma 15, 1934, Sec e- a f he I e i File, 1928-1946, Icke Pa e , LOC, Wa hi g D. C.

<sup>26</sup> Icke Be e , Oc be 28, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>27</sup> Be e Icke , N e be 24, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>28</sup> Field O de e cl ed i h Be e Icke , Ja a 30, 1935, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>29</sup> Be e Icke , N e be 28, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>30</sup> Icke E. K. B le , Dece be 1, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>31</sup> Wa d She a d Icke , Dece be 18, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>32</sup> Be e Icke , Dece be 31, 1934, File 1-275 S il E i , Ce al Cla ified File , RG 48, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>33</sup> Ha ld L. Icke , The Secret Diary of Harold L. Ickes: The First Thousand Days, 1933-1936. VI e 1 (Ne Y k: Si a d Sch e , 1953), 325.

<sup>34</sup> Icke R f P le, Ma ch 2, 1935, S il E i , Sec e a f he I e i File, 1928-1946, Icke Pa e , LOC, Wa hi g , D.C.

<sup>35</sup> D ald Richbe g, E ec i e Di ec , Na i al E e ge c , Na i al E e ge c C cil, Wallace, Feb a 11, 1935,

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<sup>36</sup> D ald Richbe g, E ec i e Di ec , Na i al E e ge c C cil, Fa kli D. R e el , Feb a 21, 1935, F lde E i , Ge e al C e de ce, RG 16, NARA, C llege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>37</sup> R be Fech e , E e ge c C e ai W k, Fe di a d Silc , Chief, F e Se ice, A. B. Ca e e , Di ec , Na i al Pa k Se ice, D ca K. Maj , J ., C l el, Ge e al S aff, Wa De a e , Ma ch 9, 1935, OF 6U (S il E i ), Official File, Fa kli D. R e el Pe ide ial Lib a , H de Pa k, Ne Y k. He ei af e FDR Lib a .

<sup>38</sup> H. H. Be e , Ca i l, Ca gh b D S , T We T il P ble -T f Di f Ce al Plai Del ged he Ci , Washington Post, Ma ch 10, 1935. Q ed i U. S., C g e , H e, S bc i ee f he C i ee he P blic La d , Soil-Erosion Program, Hearings on H. R. 7054. 74<sup>h</sup> C g., 1 . e , 20, 21, 22, 25 Ma ch, 1935, 58.

<sup>39</sup> Edga B. Ni , (Ed.), Franklin D. Roosevelt Conservation, 1911-1945. VI e 1 (H de Pa k, N.Y., Ge e al Se ice Ad i i- a i , Na i al A chi e a d Rec d Se ice, Fa kli D. R e el Lib a , 1957), 361-362.

<sup>40</sup> Fa kli D. R e el Ma i McI e, Ma ch 9, N e a ached le e f He Wallace R e el , Ma ch 7, 1935, OF 6U (S il E i ), Official File, FDR Lib a , H de Pa k, Ne Y k.

<sup>41</sup> Be e Icke , Ma ch 11, 1935, Sec e- a f he I e i File, 1928-1946, Icke Pa e , LOC, Wa hi g D. C.

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<sup>43</sup> R e el Icke , Ma ch 20, 1935, OF 6U (S il E i ), Official File FDR Lib a ; Icke R e el , Ma ch 21, 1935, OF 6U (S il E i ), Official File, FDR Lib a , H de Pa k, Ne Y k.

<sup>44</sup> Icke R e el , Ma ch 21, 1935, OF 6U (S il E i ), Official File, FDR Lib a , H de Pa k, Ne Y k.

<sup>45</sup> R e el Icke , Ma ch 22, 1935, S il E i , Sec ea f he I ei File, Icke Pa e , LOC, Wa hi g , D.C.

<sup>46</sup> F a k L. D le Ge ge A. Ba e , Ma ch 21, 1935, File 107.2, Ge e al File , 1933-1935, RG 114, Rec d f he Na al Re ce C e a i Se ice, NARA, C illege Pa k, Ma la d.

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<sup>48</sup> Black D S Ch ke Mid e , New York Times, Ma ch 21, 1935, 25.

<sup>49</sup> The e eleg a a be f d i file 107.2, Ge e al File , 1933-1935, RG 114,, NARA, C illege Pa k, Ma la d.

<sup>50</sup> U.S. C g e , H e S bc i ee he P blic La d , Soil Erosion Program, Hearings on H.R. 7054. 74 h C g., 1 e ., 20,21,22,25 Ma ch, 1935, 37-46.

<sup>51</sup> D. C. I aded B D S F Mid- e , Washington Post, Ma ch 22, 1935, 1 a d 5.

<sup>52</sup> H gh Ha d Be e , The Hugh Hammond Bennett Lectures (Raleigh, N h Ca li a: The Ag ic l al F da i , I c., J e 1959), 23.

<sup>53</sup> J a ha Da iel , Tar Heels: A Portrait of North Carolina (Ne Y k: D dd, Mead, 1941, 188; Wellington Brink, Big Hugh: The Father of Soil Conservation (Ne Y k: Mac illa , 1951), 2-7.

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<sup>55</sup> U. S. C g e , Se a e, Congressional Record, 74<sup>h</sup> C g., 1 e ., 1935, 79 . 5:5645.

<sup>56</sup> R. D gla H , The Dust Bowl: An Agricultural and Social History (Chicag : Nel- Hall, 1981), 1-3.

<sup>57</sup> Ni , (Ed.), Franklin D. Roosevelt Con- servation, 1911-1945. V I e 1, 371-372.

<sup>58</sup> Be e , The Hugh Bennett Lectures, 24.